

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 285

By Fraley

A RESOLUTION To recognize George Donald Earle on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who, in their years of work, have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, George Donald Earle is one such estimable person who has served with probity for over thirty years with the Alcoholic Beverage Commission (ABC); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Earle will end his meritorious career on June 30, 2001, at the rank of Special Agent III to answer the call of retirement; and

WHEREAS, Don Earle was born on June 19, 1941, in Winchester to the late Herbert H. Earle and Frank Edna Wiggins Earle; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Earle graduated from Franklin County High School in 1959 and attended Middle Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, A twenty-year veteran of the Tennessee National Guard, Don Earle retired as Medical Sergeant 1-115th HQ Battery Field Artillery; among other awards, he received the Army Commendation Medal in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Don Earle began his career with the ABC on September 9, 1968, in the Chattanooga office under the supervision of Bob Vetter; joining forces with agents John Lawhorn and Roy Tubb of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Mr. Earle worked moonshine and tax paid liquor; in February of 1971, he was transferred to the Winchester office; and

WHEREAS, He teamed up with Tennessee Highway Patrol helicopter pilot, Mike Dover, to make the first aerial marijuana cultivation arrest in the State, a case which went to the Tennessee Supreme Court, culminating in a victory for the State; and

WHEREAS, Since the inception of the Governor's Task Force on Marijuana Eradication, Mr. Earle has served as a team leader of the Middle Team; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of the 108th Class of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy in 1977, he has attended many law enforcement-related schools, including firearms training, body language, the Drug Enforcement Agency Advanced Narcotics, and many others related to the Governor's Task Force on Marijuana Eradication; and

WHEREAS, An active and important member of his community and his profession, Don Earle readily and enthusiastically shares the knowledge and insight he has gained from his professional experiences as an ABC agent and member of the Governor's Task Force on Marijuana Eradication by speaking to numerous civic, church, and school groups; and

WHEREAS, He enjoys the love and companionship of his wife, Janis Lightfoot Earle of Winchester, to whom he has been married since February 7, 1964, and his two sons, Donald Sean Earle and George Darren Earle; and

WHEREAS, A 1986 graduate of Franklin County High School, Donald Sean Earle received his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Science from Valdosta State University in Valdosta, Georgia; he is currently employed as a United State's Inspector General's Investigator assigned to NASA in Huntsville, Alabama, where he and his wife, Tricia O'Malley, a pharmacist in Fayetteville, are expecting their first child in July; and

WHEREAS, A 1988 graduate of Franklin County High School, George Darren Earle received his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Middle Tennessee State University and his Master's degree from the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga; he is currently employed as a Secret Service Agent assigned to former President George Bush in Houston, Texas, where he lives with his wife, Tiernan Stetson, and their two children, daughter Ashton Frank, four years old, and son Reilly Case, two years old; and

WHEREAS, Don Earle is a loving brother to Hoyte Earle of Winchester, Shirley Caraway of Gibson, Lorraine Lynch and Cathy Burt, both of Winchester; and

WHEREAS, Don Earle exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his estimable career, Don Earle has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate others to reach their potential, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his peers and superiors alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we extend to George Donald Earle our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.